

## Iron County Register

IRONTON, Mo. - MAR. 23, 1911.

E. D. AKE, EDITOR.

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ONLY a manoeuvre—nothing more!

THE suspicious man is usually a door-knocker to his own heart.

TEXAS is going to vote on State-wide Prohibition. With its alleged scarcity of good water, the ants of the Lone Star ought to have easy sledging.

TEDDY is striving his utmost to "come back," and he has his encouragers; but the fine frenzy of recent days ago is conspicuous by reason of its absence.

THE provisions of the Federal law for the taxation of corporations were sustained as Constitutional on the 13th inst. by the Supreme Court of the United States.

MELBOURNE SMITH, son of ex-Congressman M. R. Smith, is now owner and editor of the *Lead Belt News*, published at Flat River. The young man has had experience in newspaper work and ought to make good.

IF the shipment of troops to the Mexican border means real business, by what authority does the President declare war? The incoming Democratic Congress will likely demand a good and sufficient answer to this question if the event raises it.

THE legislature submits a constitutional amendment which, if adopted, will admit children of the age of five years into the public schools. Why not make it three years, or two, or one? If the State is to take charge of the child, why wait beyond weaning-time?

THE U. S. Supreme Court last Monday dismissed, for want of jurisdiction, the appeal of the St. Louis Globe Printing Company, publisher of the *Globe-Democrat*, from the decision of the Missouri courts. These courts gave Sam B. Cook \$50,000 damages against the *G.-D.* for articles it had published concerning him in 1905. "Cough up," gentlemen, and be more circumspect next time!

AN Englishman of some note says that the United States is sure to have trouble with Japan, and that our Pacific possessions invite easy conquest. He is right as to the latter proposition. Uncle Sam ought to have kept hands off of Hawaii and the Philippines. The acquisition of these by force and purchase was a crime against our own Declaration of Independence, and a blunder still greater than the crime. And, sure as the sun shines, no nation, any more than an individual can commit wrong without rendering eventual atonement.

IN the Supreme Court proceedings published this morning I find these two items:

State ex. rel. Gay vs. Rayburn; petition for alternative writ of mandamus denied without prejudice.

State ex. rel. Gay vs. Jones; petition for alternative writ of mandamus denied without prejudice.

Suitable comment upon this attempted sharp practice on the part of the local "gang" will be made hereafter. In the meantime, please note that their prayer is denied by a Court the majority of whose members are Republicans.

SOMEHOW, the Rev. Dr. Swift's sought for discrepancy between the Jefferson City and the Iron County books didn't "pan out." The War Debt Fund, the School Monies, the Criminal Costs sums, and the Foreign Insurance receipts—they all tallied, "figger for figger." 'Tis pitiful—"tis wondrous pitiful! Now for a full, honest and complete auditing of "the books" by experts who have no end in view other than to make a true balance-sheet. It will cost something, but maybe those who have been in outward anguishing doubt as to the integrity of our officials will "put up" for the expense. That is to say, MAYBE they will! So, too, it may yet be scientifically demonstrated that the moon is made of green cheese.

THE ordinary earthquake was out-classed on the 9th inst. by a dynamite explosion at the works of the I. E. du Pont de Nemours Powder Co., at Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin. That town, the press informs us, was swept away; neighboring villages and farm-houses were wholly or in part destroyed; and windows were broken and people were frightened in Kenosha, Racine, Waukegan, Evanston and Chicago. The shock was felt in Gary, Ind., and as far away as Burlington, Iowa, and was recorded by a seismograph at

Cleveland, Ohio. Only one life was immediately lost—that of a night foreman. The property damage has been put at two millions. The powder company has stated that all losses caused by the disaster will be paid, as moral, and not as legal obligations.

I READ that "H. D. Layman, president of The National Highway Club, an organization recently incorporated under the laws of New York and located at 115 Broadway, states that 40 multi-millionaires are back of an enterprise for building national highways without taxation. The plans contemplate a 144-foot wide highway from New York to Washington and then an extension to other large cities, the estimated cost being \$100,000 a mile. The plans provide for 12-foot foot-paths on each side, two 20-foot public roads for animal traffic only, and two 20-foot roads for automobiles and motorcycles. Next come two trolley tracks in the center of the thoroughfare and two roads for commercial traffic." Since the money does not come from taxation, I presume the multi-millionaires will foot the bills. How their purse-strings will have to be loosened!

I SEE in a late issue of the *Popular Bluff Citizen* that an eastern syndicate has bought a body of about 6,000 acres of land in Butler county. I don't like these big purchases; they are not good for the country. Better by far are small holdings by sovereign citizens—men who are not tenants, but possessors. If I could have my way, no man or body of could lawfully own more than 100 acres—and to limit it to 80 acres would be still better. I came west to Iowa in 1856. At that time the bulk of the land in cultivation was held by the men who tilled the soil. There were a few tenant farmers, but each of these looked forward confidently to the time when he would possess a farm of his own. Now, how different! Hardly one in twenty owns the land he cultivates, and, worse still, has no hope or intention of ever being anything else than tenant at his landlord's will. Just read this paragraph taken from the *Vinton (Ia.) Times* of recent date:

"All this week men have been moving from one farm to another. All this week there has been a tearing up and taking away. All this week men have been undoing things they spent time in having done. All this week there has been a waste of energy and a lack of soil interest that must some day be paid for and dearly paid for. The organism of our present rural life with its system of tenantry is wholly at variance with the nature of man. Instead of order, that divine-like attribute, there is chaos. System has given place to accident and as the result of it all we will eventually have destruction—destruction of soil wealth."

Not only is the present system destructive of soil wealth, but of man-wealth—of nearly all that goes to make a citizen fit for liberty and self-government.

### Some Sharp Resolutions.

JEFFERSON CITY, March 20, 1911.

Ed. Register—I am instructed by the House of Representatives of the Forty Sixth General Assembly to transmit to your paper the following resolution which was adopted by the unanimous vote of Republican and Democratic Members alike on Monday, March 20, 1911:

"WHEREAS, there was not a member or employee of the 46th General Assembly of Missouri, upon the floor of the House yesterday, who was in the least degree under the influence of intoxicating liquor, and

"WHEREAS, the singing which was indulged in was at the suggestion and under the leadership of Hon. Hiram Lloyd, minority leader, and

"WHEREAS, the songs were all of a religious nature, and were sung purely in the spirit of reverence, therefore be it

"Resolved, that the article published in the *Globe-Democrat* under the head lines of 'Drunken Democrats turn Assembly into a Sunday Debauch,' is hereby declared to be absolutely false, and be it further

"Resolved, that said article was inspired and written in a spirit of unfairness and malice, and that said article is a slander, libel, and a most infamous attack upon the good name and character of every member of the legislature and the wives, daughters and ladies who so delightfully assisted in the singing, and be it further

"Resolved, that the floor and privileges of the House be denied the Representatives of the *Globe-Democrat* for this most malicious and unfair attack, during the remainder of the 46th General Assembly, and be it further

"Resolved, that the Chief Clerk be instructed to send a copy of this resolution to every newspaper of the State of Missouri."

Very respectfully,  
J. C. POOL,  
Chief Clerk.

Go to A. Riecke & Son for Carpets and Rugs.

## Jefferson City Correspondence.

JEFFERSON CITY, March 20.

Ed. Register—The legislature has put the capitol question up to the people—they can take their choice of a short term, small bond proposition at a special election August 1, 1911, or a long term, larger bond proposition at the general election in 1912.

The proposition for the special election calls for a three and one-half million dollar capitol, while the proposition at the general election means a five million dollar capitol.

The three and one-half million dollar bonds are to run thirteen years, while the five million dollar issue runs thirty years.

The short term bonds are taxable, the same as other property; the long term bonds are non-taxable.

The bonds in both propositions bear three and one-half per cent. interest, and the tax-rate called for in each instance is two cents on the one hundred dollars assessed valuation.

The amount in each proposition includes building, equipping and buying additional capitol grounds, and the act stipulates that any sum spent in the excess of the sum called for in the bond issue shall be "void and forever non-collectable."

If the smaller bond proposition carries in the August special election, the larger one will go by default, but should it fail to carry, then the larger bond issue will be voted on at the general election next year. It will require a two-thirds majority to carry the smaller proposition at the special election, while a majority vote carries the larger bond proposition at the general election.

The three and one-half million short-term bond proposition represents the views of the legislators who believe that amount is sufficient to build, equip and buy needed additional grounds and who oppose long-term bond issues. The five million long term bond proposition represents the views of the members of the General Assembly who think three and one-half million is not enough and who favor long term bond issues.

Both propositions call for rebuilding the capitol at the present seat of government.

It's up to the people—they can build a three and one-half million dollar capitol by paying a capitol tax of 2 cents on the \$100 for 13 years, or they can build a five million dollar capitol by paying 2 cents on the \$100 for thirty years.

The way to beat the 2 cents for 30 years proposition is to vote for the 2 cents 13 year proposition in August at the special election. The way to carry the long term proposition, which only requires a majority vote, is to vote against the short term proposition at the special election in August.

The state must have a new capitol. All are agreed that it should be erected at the present seat of government. The question is, shall we have a three and one-half million or a five million dollar building? Shall we pay 2 cents on the \$100 for 13 years, or 2 cents on the \$100 for 30 years? Which?

### Effect of the Tariff on Wheat.

It is claimed by the American Economist, a protection organ, that the price of American wheat in Minneapolis is every year about 12 cents higher than the price of Canadian wheat at Winnipeg, and that the difference is due to the American tariff on wheat. Whether there is this difference in price, or any difference in price, quality for quality, we do not know. Possibly some of the grain-price experts of Minneapolis or Winnipeg may care to advise us. But if the difference exists, why is it only 12 cents pray, when the American tariff on wheat is 25 cents?

There might be several reasons for such a difference. It might be the American tariff. But if it were there should be a closer ratio of higher price to tariff than 50 per cent, and explanations consistent with tariff influence of why American wheat and Canadian wheat, which have their common market at a common price in Liverpool, vary in price at their respective local markets. Among the possible reasons for price difference, cost of transportation (legitimate and illegitimate cost) must not be overlooked. Neither must questions of quality; nor of purely local influences with reference to proximity of the foreign frontier.

One must ask also what the difference in price may be at American shipping points as compared with Canadian shipping points. When all the factors affecting prices of agricultural products are considered, something your protectionist never indulges in, the influence of the protection tariff in protecting American farmers fades lightly away.—*Chicago Public.*

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